The Council re-assembled at the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, the 21st day of March 1923, the hon. Diwan Bahadur Sir P. RAJAGOPALA ACHARIYAR, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., President, presiding.

I
NEW MEMBER.

The following new Member was sworn in :—

Khan Bahadur HAJI ABDULLA SAHIB Bahadur.

II
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[*Order made by the President of the Madras Legislative Council under Standing Order No.* 15—

(1) Printed copies of the questions and answers to be put and given at a meeting of the Council shall be placed on the Council table an hour before the President takes his seat.

(2) The questions shall be put and answered in the following manner :—

The Secretary shall call the name of each interpellator in alphabetical order, specify the serial numbers of his questions and make a sufficient pause to allow him or any other member a reasonable opportunity of rising in his place if he is desirous of asking a supplementary question. Supplementary questions must be put immediately after the principal questions to which they relate.]

Concession regarding increment remission.

917 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that 50 per cent reduction of the increment remission granted to caste ryots is given to Khonds and other backward Hill tribes ;

(*b*) whether such concession in increment remission is given to depressed classes ryots in the southern districts ; and

(*c*) if not, why not ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) It is presumed that the hon. Member refers to the concession granted to Khonds and other hill tribes in respect of the enhancement of assessment. If so, the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative and the answer to (*b*) is in the negative.

(*c*) The Government do not consider that any useful comparison can be drawn between aboriginal hillmen and the inhabitants of the plains.

Transfer of Provincial Service Deputy Collectors and Indian Civil Service Revenue Divisional Officers and Collectors.

918 *Q.*—Rao Bahadur M. C. RAJA: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state how many Provincial Service Deputy Collectors and Indian Civil Service Revenue Divisional Officers and Collectors have been transferred during the course of the last ten months ending with 31st January 1923 to places beyond two districts and to what distances and how much travelling allowances have been drawn in each case ?

A.—The Government regret that they do not see sufficient justification for directing the compilation of the statistics asked for. They presume that the criterion which the hon. Member sets before him is the distance travelled. If so, the distance travelled in order to